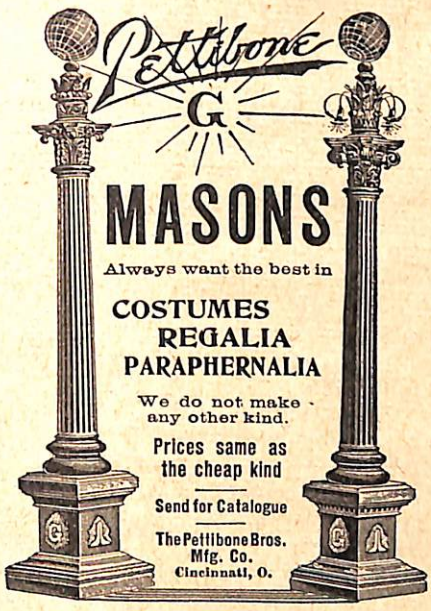
Recorders of Temples We've a Word for You!

The FREEMASON AND FEZ.

IN THE INTEREST OF MASONRY, THE MYSTIC SHRINE AND THE ORDER OF ISIS
Also the Ancient Craftsmen of Tyre and Egypt.
JNO. WESTLEY GEIGER, 1201 Third Avenue, Editor.

VOLUME XI. CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, FEBRUARY-MARCH, 1903. NO. 2-3



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1201 THIRD AVENUE,

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General Directory.

GRAND LODGE MEETS.

Waterloo, June 2, 1903.

W. S. GARDNER.....Clinton.....GRAND MASTER
N. R. Parvin.....Cedar Rapids.....Grand Secretray

CONVOCATIONS, R. A. M.

General Grand (U. S.), Little Rock, Ark., 1903,
Iowa, Oskaloosa, September, 1903.
I. P. WILSON .....Burlington....GRAND HIGH PRIEST
Alf. Wingate.....Des Moines.....Grand Secretary

ASSEMBLIES, R. & S. M.

General Grand (U. S.)
Iowa, Iowa, City, Oct. 10, 1903.
F. W. CRAIG.....Des Moines..... M. P. G. M
Alf. Wingate .....Des Moines.....Grand Recorder

CONCLAVES K. T.

Grand Encampment, San Francisco, Cal., 1904.
Iowa Grand, Templar Park, July, 1903.
F. W. CRAIG.....DesMoines.....GRAND COMMANDER
D. M. BROWNLEE.Sioux City.....Grand Recorder

GRAND CHAPTERS O. E. S.

General Grand (U. S.) Sept. 27, 1904.
Iowa City, Oct. 1903.
JANE WEBBER.....Cherokee.....GRAND MATRON
W. H. Wray.....Oskaloosa.....Grand Patron
Mrs. Maria Jackson...Council Bluffs.....Grand Secretary

THE MYSTIC SHRINE.

Imperial Council, Saratoga, N. Y., July 8, 1903.
HENRY C. AKIN, Omaha, Neb., IMP. POTENTATE.
Ben. W. Rowell..... .....Boston, Mass.....Recorder

EL-KAHIR TEMPLE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

C. P. EMERSON.....{ Cedar Rapids } ..POTENTATE
John Westley Geiger ...{ } .....Recorder

MEETINGS AT HOME.

Second Wednesday of each month.

SCOTTISH RITE.

DES MOINES.

FRANCIS A. BROWN, 32°.....Venerable Master
WEBB SOUERS, 32°..... Wise Master
M. McFARDAND. 32° ..... Preceptor
FLETCHER HOWARD, 32°..... Master of Kadosh
R. M. J. COLEMAN, 33°.....Registrar of all the bodies

CLINTON.

L. C. EASTMAN.....Venerable Master
LOUIS MOESZINGER .....Wise Master
FRED E. BACHELDER .....Preceptor
L. C. EASTMAN.....Master of Kadosh
E. A. WADLEIGH.....Registrar all four bodies

DAVENPORT.

LOUIS BLOCK.....Venerable Master
GEORGE M. BARRETTE.....Wise Master
FREDERICK M. BILLS.....Preceptor
WILLIAM S. ONDERDONK.....Master of Kodash
CORNELIUS J. BROWN.....Registrar of all the bodies

CEDAR RAPIDS.

JOHN WESTLEY GEIGER..... .....Venerable Master
FRANCIS M. HALL..... Wise Master
GEORGE WOLTZ BEVER .....Preceptor
NEWTON RAY PARVIN.....Master of Kodash
CALVIN G. GREENE.....Registrar of all the bodies

ARE YOU GOING TO SARATOGA?

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VOLUME XI. CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, FEBRUARY-MARCH, 1903. NO. 2

CHIEF RABBAN,

MARK S. JACKSON,

Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

No one, more especially if he be a Noble, will mistake the portrait of this month for any other man than El-Kahir's Chief Rabban, Mark S. Jackson. Like most, or all of the officers of this Temple, Noble Jackson is active in all the bodies of the A. F. & A. M. in Cedar Rapids and has merited the favor of the Nobility by being advanced from Assistant to Chief Rabban at the last Annual meeting. Jackson is one of "the boys" and well becomes the flickering smile one sees on his face in the above half-tone.

Among the Lodges.

Over in Illinois they do not concede it a prerogative of the Grand Master to order the expulsion of a Mason by his lodge after they had already voted for definite suspension.

Illinois will expend $25,000 in improving the "Miller Bequest," a large farm at Sullivan, where a 264-acre farm has been given for a Masonic Home. Arrangements will be made to transfer the other two homes to the control of the Grand Lodge.

Brother Joseph Robbins, of Illinois, still dips his pen in acid when he writes of those who do not agree with him.

The Grand Secretaries of Masonry now have a "Guild" whose objects are much the same as those of the "Recorders" Association" of the Mystic Shrine. The preliminary meeting was held Sept. 26, 1900, by those at G. G. C. in Cincinnati. The second meeting was held at Louisville, Ky., Aug. 28, 1901.

At Keokuk, Ia., it was pleasant recently to witness the work in the M. M. degree well and faithfully done.

At Cantril, Iowa, the Lodge has secured quarters for themselves and from the expressions of Bro. Dr. Jones and others they enjoy having a place all to themselves.

Well, well, look here! It is announced that the Grand Lodge of North Dakota has instituted a Juvenile degree for the Sons of Freemasons from the ages of 14 to 21. A committee is to examine upon the matter and "report." Hark!

At La Crosse, Wis., a new Temple was dedicated Dec. 26, 1902.

The late Charles K. Smith, First Territorial Secretary, 1848, of Minnesota, is the accredited pioneer of Masonic introduction into our neighboring jurisdiction through St. Paul Lodge, under dispensation from Ohio.

The following interesting story of Masonic charity is told in a press dispatch from Springfield, Ohio: "Little Esther Hoch, of the Ohio Masonic home here, has been adopted by Mrs. Grant Phillips. The little girl is the daughter of a Mason living in Murray City. Her mother is dead. Several years ago, Miss Wade, a young milliner, arrived in Murray City, an absolute stranger. She needed assistance and made known the fact that she was the daughter of a Mason. The only member of the order in the village called upon her and offered any assistance within his power. Mrs. Phillips recently arranged to give a home to the young girl. On being asked of her former home and parentage, Mrs. Phillips was amazed to learn that she is the daughter of the Mason of Murray City, who extended his kindness to the young milliner, now Mrs. Phillips."

—*Masonic News.*

The following paragraph from the pen of Brother Martin H. Rice, editor of the *Masonic Advocate*, is in harmony with our utterances on the same subject in the November issue of the TIDINGS:

Any by-law, rule or regulation of any sort that deprives a Brother of any of the rights and privileges of Masonry, or that is in any way an injury to his good name and standing as a Mason, without first giving him an opportunity to be heard in his own defense, is contrary to the principles and teachings of Masonry and that justice which is one of the cardinal virtues of our time-honored fraternity. There should be no such thing as *snap judgment* in dealing with a Brother, even though he be an erring one.

A MASONIC CEMETRY.

The ten Lodges of Detroit have combined in the establishment of a Masonic cemetery in that city. Before the ground was selected over 1,600 lots were sold,—*Tidings.*

IOWA USED TO.

In Nevada the dimit is not issued to the brother, but to the lodge to which he makes application for membership and is elected, otherwise he remains a member of the lodge which made him a Freemason.

—*Texas Freemason.*

"TELL IT NOT IN OATH."

The writer met a worshipful master not long since, who was serving his second term, who was surprised to learn that the Grand Lodge published its proceedings in book form.—*Ill. F. M.*

The Royal Arch.

So far as information goes in this department Ike Forbes, Marshalltown, and the Chapter at Farmington are up and doing. We'd like to give all the news all the time in brief, but our profits are all eaten up in hunting the columns of other papers for an item here and there.

Scottish Rite.

Des Moines Consistory recently conducted the large class of distinguished men given herewith through the degrees of the Rite. Those familiar with Governor Cummins will have no trouble in finding him, as usual, in the front row, and the other state officers are closely supporting him. Laying all politics aside, the way that group is arranged around and "back" of the governor is the way Iowa men feel toward Cummins the "man from Iowa with ideas." We owe Registrar Coleman our thanks for the use of the accompanying cut.

DeMolay Consistory and co-ordinate bodies occupied the Lyons Temple Feb. 17, 18, 19, 20, 1903, with succesfull work.

Buffalo Consistory (N. Y.) held a special "Convocation" Jan. 29, 1903. Their eleventh annual reunion will be held March 24-27, 1903.

Des Moines Consistory held its eleventh annual "Conclave" Dec. 27th, 1902. Their income for the year was $16,399.63 and the expenditures $13,469.10. They have on interest at 5 per cent, $10,420.00. Des Moines is prosperous and well deserves it.

At Davenport the bodies of the Rite held a reunion from Feb. 25 to 27, 1903, with a nice sized class.

James D. Richardson, 33° of Tennessee, will retire from congress to give his entire time to the business of the Supreme Council of the S. M. J., so says the daily press report.

Commanderies.

From the frequency of its specials we should judge that under Commander Forbes Apollo is waking up some.

From Grand Commandery comes the announcement of twelve districts for inspection with the following as inspectors by number: D. W. Clements, W. H. Norris, A. A. Rodman, E. Olin Soule, O. C. Meredith, C. E. Harding, Wm. Welden, J. C. W. Coxe, Crom Bowen, O. P. Worsley, D. M. Brownlee and A. R. Molyneu. Inspections must come between March 15 and May 15, 1903.

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Published Monthly

JNO. WESTLEY GEIGER, K. T., 32°,
EDITOR.

For all business and exchanges address Editor, 1201 Third Ave., Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

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JNO. WESTLEY GEIGER, Editor and Publ'r.
New 'Phone 979. 1201 Third Ave., Cedar Rapids, Iowa

CEDAR RAPIDS, IA., FEBRUARY-MARCH, 1903.

HOW OF GRAND LODGE COMMITTEES?

"Rotation in office, we fear, is becoming entirely too common in some of the Lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction for the best interests of Masonry. No one will question that a worthy Brother is better qualified by being advanced through the various offices to preside over a Lodge because of the experience and training. But where rotation in office is the rule, qualifications or fitness are not always considered, and the Lodge almost invariably suffers thereby. Men who are incompetent and unfit are thus too often, we fear, placed in the highest position in the gift of the Lodge, which soons grows lukewarm, if not chilly. The best, most capable and enthusiastic brethren should be selected for the positions, so that the spirit of Masonry may predominate and brotherly love prevail."

—Lewis J. Baker, Iowa.

A CHICAGO MASONIC BUILDING.

Fanned to a flame, doubtless, by the odorous "Masonic Temple" tax scandal and later by the "Medruah Temple" failure, there is an enthusiastic move on foot to build an exclusively Masonic building in Chicago. Right. Now send to Mayor Martin, Waterloo, Iowa, for the successful Iowa plan of stock.

PISTOLS AND COFFEE?

Don't the *Standard* and the *Pacific Mason* get on well together? Some of the "reverse tokens" indicate that they do not. We don't want to interfere, but we are ducking the missles as they fly "to and fro."

P. G. M. Swain of Wisconsin, says the late Bro. W. R. Bowen, of Nebraska, was the champion of the present far-reaching law-requiring Lodge and Chapter standing for Royal Arch Masons and Knights Templar. In how many states is it a dead letter?

The "Catholic Church Progress" of St. Louis, may fling at Brother Roosevelt's address in Philadelphia; but it's too far in the clear to do them any good one way or other.

Owing to someone's sickness, the January number was far delayed, and February was so late that we issue a double number and will extend all credits for the full time.

How many nonaffiliates there are! "The woods are full of them," says the *Keystone*. How shall we win them back? Vain effort. Retain all you have by making Masonry what it ought to be—always and everywhere. The way to cure nonaffiliation is to prevent it. Make lodge meetings attractive. To do otherwise is to drive the membership away.—*Voice Review.*

Vain hope! How many hues and turns the Ancient Craft would have to make to get the point of "attraction" to where some of the "annuals" would stick. Rather hold to the rare old spirit and "letter go."

Poor Palestine Lodge of Detroit! What a time they have with their innovated "button" for fear some "person or persons whomsoever" will infringe upon their new idea. We regard their badge equally misleading with a templar cross under the letters, F. C. B.

Our readers will please notice the advertisement of the National Masonic Accident Association on our first page, and as well the fact that H. C. Alverson, late of Erie, Penn., formerly of Iowa, is now its secretary. This association has a splendid line of business and deserves well of Masons everywhere.

If anybody asks you, just tell them that the Shriners are going to Saratoga Springs in force next July and as an earnest of the fact El Kahir has one sleeper actually pledged NOW. We do not know as to Kaaba and Za-ga-zig, but they are always up to snuff.

We regret distance preventing our joining the Masonic bodies at Newton in the opening of their new Masonic Temple February, 23, 1903. There was a rich program and a fine banquet.

Readers and exchanges will please note that we've moved to 1201 Third avenue, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and charge any confusion up to that.

THE SIMPLICITY OF AMERICAN MASONRY.

We have often noticed the difference in the decorations of foreign and American Masonic dignitaries. We do not criticise the style of any, but we glory in the simple dignity of our American Masonry. Iowa, for instance, has not had a Grand Master within our knowledge who did not ornament the Grand East well enough with the simple insignia we are all used to, and to have put on him collars, cuffs and extra hangers, would have been to suggest the ludicrous. We still think our simpler ways the best.

The Eastern Star.

CHARLES CITY LETTER.

CHARLES CITY, IOWA, Feb. 20 1903.

Mr. J. W. Geiger, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

DEAR SIR & BRO:—I have been thinking that a few lines from Excelsior Chapter No. 51 O. E. S. of this city might be of interest to you for the FREE MASON AND FEZ. Our officers for 1903 are nearly all new in their several stations, and they are exceedingly proficient considering the length of time they have been in office, and are taking pride in doing the work. The Chapter has improved very much in the past two years, and the prospects are certainly very flattering for the coming year. We have already initiated two candidates, and last evening elected another to receive the degrees, and received three more applications for degrees.

We have just held what we termed a Hard Times Social which was given for the benefit of Home for the Aged. It was a very unique entertainment, and well attended. We cleared a snug little sum for the Home. I will enclose a couple of clippings from the Charles City Daily Press that will probably give you a better idea of the nature of the social than I can.

Yours Fraternally,
L. B. GARDNER, W. P.

C. C. C. C. C. C.

The above is the official designation of a very pleasant social gathering which

was held at the Masonic hall Friday evening, February 5th. Those who accepted the invitation as extended through the paper, had a great deal of curiosity to learn what those characters meant and they soon found out that they stood for coffee, cheese, crackers, or something like that. The pleasant parlor upstairs began filling about 8:30 and in a short time it was full to overflowing.

The following program was rendered, all numbers being thoroughly enjoyable: a bass solo by Mr. Wallace; violin solo, Miss Nellie Crowell; vocal duet, Mesdames W. Sharp and L. Hoffman; reading, Miss Edith Reed, in costume; violin solo, J. McEwen; vocal solo, Edna Kannengeiser; reading, Miss Annie Brittan; cornet solo, Prof. Sanders; and second numbers by Miss Reed and Edna Kannangeiser. At the conclusion of the program, Mrs. Jennie Matthews, who had charge of affairs, introduced Mrs. J. E. Rule, of Mason City, Past Grand Matron, O. E. S., who in a few well chosen remarks stated that the funds received during the evening were to go towards the building of an Eastern Star Home and that it was desirable that just $43 should be received. It developed later that the occasion was the 43d wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Mathews and that this method had been adopted for the celebration of it, which was certainly most enjoyable for all concerned. After the serving of refreshments in the dining room below, the guests either departed or went to the parlor above for the brief remaining time. The sum of $25 was realized from the reception, to be devoted to the purpose mentioned.

On the evening of January 19th we had the pleasure of seeing and hearing the work in Ottumwa Chapter and of witnessing the installation of officers. Ottumwa, has a reach for a Patron and Mrs. Lewis as W. M. is not slow.

Our Iowa Stars may plead surprise to know, that after good Sister Pitkins' eloquent citation of Illinois as example of an Eastern Star Home project the whole property and endowment have been transferred to the control of the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

The Mystic Shrine.

This journal is sent to every Recorder in the Order, for which there is no charge. Any interest they may take will be appreciated. JNO. WESTLEY GEIGER, Editor.

If reports are true, Medinah Temple, Chicago, is liable to be ousted from its splendid "sky parlor" and it may hasten the exclusive Masonic building boom.

Alchymia, Memplis, Tenn., invites us to a reception for Feb. 27 (past) in honor of Imperial Potentate Aken and wife. We had time but no tin to go.

Imperial Potentate Aken made a tour of the Southern Temples during the month of February. We could hear by "wireless" the noise of the pleasure every little while.

We would not wonder if Ben Rowell did take the prize for the nobbiest little passport yet sent out. Thanks for sample.

In the New York (greater) Temples Mecca and Kismet candidates must now pay fifty dollars for the Order.

Rameses Temple continues "Harry A. Collins as its Potentate—Shake 'Arry.

Jimmy McGee has been made an "honorary" member of Oriental, Troy, N. Y. Jimmy is an honorary of a bunch of Temples and well deserves it. Hooray Jamie!

YEA, VERILY.

The Grand Master of Colorado is after the Mystic Shrine in that state. In a circular letter he requests all the craft in that jurisdiction to keep out of the Mystic Shrine until further orders emanate from the Grand Lodge.—*The Illinois Freemason.*

In our opinion a Grand Master has no right to interfere with the personal liberties of any Freemason. If he desires to join the Shrine he has just as much right to do so as to join the Odd Fellows, Methodists or any other society.—*Pacific Mason.*

IMPERIAL COUNCIL.

Don't you think it's too soon to talk Imperial Council! Cassius (dear old Cass!) R. Thomas, Chairman, tells fol k that the United States (there are others) hotel is fully promised and others crowding in. One fare for the round trip anyhow. Nearly a month extension and lots of side trips to take. Especial interest will be taken in the Competitive Patrol drills this year. Three prizes in gold are offered. Hotel reservations range from $2.00 to $6.00 per day and C. R. Brown, Saratoga N. Y., can tell you all about it.

IS IT POSSIBLE?

The white chapeau of the Knight Templar and the red fez of the Mystic Shriner are insignia of two faiths as different as white and red. Perhaps many of those who wear these headgear never take a second thought as to what they signify.—*Pacific Mason.*

We fear that with the average Templar and Shriner, faith of any kind cuts very little figure.—*Standard.*

The Order of Isis.

That this Auxiliary is of interest to the women of the Mystic Shrine is evidenced by Mrs. Nora J. Galbraith of Honolulu Oahn, H. I., writing to Mrs. J. E. Matthews of Rockford and she to the Editor to know how to organize it.

The Imperial Council might well foster and authorize this Order since the women want it.

Fraternities.

A WISE AND JUST MOVE.

Insurance Matters to be Further Probed.

Des Moines, Iowa. Jan. 16—The state executive council has taken steps to secure from the insurance companies direct information as to the amount of fees that have been paid from time to time in the past thirty years on account of examinations for Iowa authorities. The companies are to be invited to make a full report on the fees paid, and to whom paid and when, and all other facts, so that the records of the office of auditor of state will be complete.

THE CAMEL'S NOSE.

Among the brethren of the Masonic bodies of Kalamazoo there has been in effect for some time a form of insurance that should meet with the hearty approval of all Masonic bodies, no matter where situated. In its scope it is purely Masonic and has only the welfare of the brethren in view. In that no salaries are paid to the officers and no commission is paid for getting members into the association, it differs from all other kinds of insurance. On the death of a member of the association, the entire fund collected is paid over to the beneficiaries of the deceased and a new fund is formed.

To Palestine Lodge especially will this form of insurance commend itself. Palestine, having a membership probably greater than all the Masonic bodies of Kalamazoo combined, could carry on an insurance of this kind without the aid of any other Masonic body.

No receipts are issued to members of the association; a list of all brethren who join the association being posted in the anteroom of the lodge instead. At the head of this list the following notice is posted.

Notice.

The purpose of this association is to establish a fund which, upon the death of a member of the association, will be promptly paid over to the surviving family or relatives of the deceased or to his beneficiary; thereby providing ready means to meet the expenses incident.

The following are the requirements for membership:

I. To become a member of this association you must be a member of one (not all) of the Kalamazoo Masonic bodies.

II. You must pay one ($1) dollar every time you desire the benefit of a fund. (No dollar, no benefit.)

III. You get no receipt for your dollar. See that you are on the list marked Pd.

IV. You will be expected to assist in making a success of the association by putting in your dollar and inducing all Kalamazoo Masons to do the same.

V. Old age and infirmity will not bar you from the benefits of the association. Come in with us and we will see you through to the end.

VI. You will not be debarred from depositing a dollar or a fraction of a dollar for a brother who may be unable to spare one himself.—*Palestine Bulletin.*

ONE TROUBLE AT A TIME.

A correspondent in the Iowa Woodman suggests the Junior Auxiliary to the M. W. A. for Woodmen children, ages 10 to 20. Why the lower limit "Memo" does not say, but insurance for less than $100.00 would not be worth the trouble if carried at as low rates as the Woodmen now carry. We wonder if these neighbors had not better settle "one trouble at a time?"

Canute R. Matson, of Chicago, prominent in politics and Fraternities was buried in Chicago January 18, 1903, with Masonic ceremonies.

H. C. Alverson, lately residing in Erie, Pennsylvania, has returned to Iowa and is now the Secretary of the National Masonic Accident Association; by the way grown to be one of the substantial institutions of our western country. Alf. W. Wingate is President, J. A. Doverman, Vice President, D. C. Bowman, Treasurer, and C. M. Myrick, Sup't of Agencies.

Book Table.

"The Twelve Landmarks of A. C. Masonry," also why certain fixed Masonic laws are not landmarks, fundamentally and analytically elucidated, by William E. Ginther, Charleston, Ill., Deputy Grand Lecturer for Illinois. Price 25 cents.

We thank Grand Recorder Brownlee for the Directory of Commanderies for 1903.

The holiday greetings of General John C., Mrs. Smith and daughter, Ruth; of Gill Barnard, and other well-beloved brothers, came to hand as usual.

We have the Imperial Council Directory from B. W. Rowell, Boston.

Masonic Directory of St. Joseph, Mo., from Recorder John Broder of Moila Temple.

Proceedings Grand Lodge of Colorado, from Grand Secretary Todd (1902.)

From our congenial brother, Gil Barnard, comes the proceedings of the Grand Commandery, Grand Chapter and Grand Council of Illinois for 1902.

From Grand Sovereign John Corson Smith, we have proceedings of the Supreme Grand Chapter Grand Cross of Constantine for 1902.

The annual report on Correspondence as submitted by General John C. Smith of Illinois, is a work that each year grows more valuable.

Masonic Directory of Sioux City from Brother H. Michelstetter.

From Grand Secretary Grant, Proceedings of Grand Chapter of Kentucky, 1902.

From Grand Secretary Barron, Proceedings Grand Chapter, South Carolina.

HORSE COMMITS SUICIDE.

The Wabash Railway, in a damage suit instituted by J. M. Sauvinette to recover the value of a horse which met his death on the Wabash tracks, sets up the novel defense that the horse committed suicide. Perhaps the animal had been reading the advertisements of the Wabash and got it into his head that it was the direct route to heaven.

—*Globe-Democrat, Feb. 27, 1903.*

Recorders' Association
of the Mystic Shrine for North America.

H. M. Myers, Minneapolis, Minn., President.
Jno. W. Geiger, Cedar Rapids, Ia., Secretary-Treasurer.
Meets where Imperial Council meets annually.
Next meeting Saratoga Springs, N. Y., July 8, 1903.

It is the positive opinion of your secretary that not one in twenty-five of the recorders have noticed this department. A postal card assertion without notary will do.

PROXY SUGGESTION.

Our president suggests that wherever the recorder cannot attend the meeting of the Association next July, he should be privileged to name one of the representatives as his proxy for that occasion. Postal card vote to the secretary will decide. We vote aye.

This issue will be mailed by the new "Directory" as sent out by "Imperial Ben."

We are sorry to lose the old but glad to welcome the new recorders; but why lose the old? If they take enough interest to keep up with the procession they can belong to the association.

Old and new will have heard from us ere this meets their eyes—let all heed accordingly.

While we don't ask it—any stray half dollars coming our way from recorder's for subscriptions received will be appreciated.

As moving is different from paying rent, we've moved from 1321 Second avenue to 1201 Third avenue, Cedar Rapids. Call when passing.

The Ancient Craftsmen of Tyre and Egypt.

S. G. Lund, S. M.,.....Omaha, Neb.
Jno. W. Geiger, S. R.,.....Cedar Rapids, Ia.

This Order holds no other attainment among men as prerequisite to its degrees except those moral standards accepted by our times. It stands for silence, secrecy, benevolence, fraternity and co-operation. Its degrees are founded upon defined principles and usages handed down from the past.

It was the custom of the Ancient Phoenicians to make all orphaned children the particular wards of the state; so also with the infant sons of parents too poor or indifferent to properly bring them up.

The ceremony of adoption by the authorities was to pass the child over a blazing fire, as a symbol of its being as entirely separated from its former parents as though consumed by fire.

OLDER THAN SOLOMON.

In my early membership in the craft, I believed, as have many others, that Masonry had its origin at the building of King Solomon's Temple. I do not think so now, for I find too many evidences of skilled Masonry in the tombs, temples and vast edifices in Egypt, from which the Israelites came. We cite the two pillars in front of the temple as something novel and unique, when it was but a custom of the Egyptians, for in front of each of their temples were always placed two obelisks. In a cornfield above Cairo there now stands, like a lone sentinel, a large obelisk. The companion column is on the banks of the Thames, London, and those two obelisks were in front of the Temple of the Sun in On, the city of Heliopolis, the daughter of the High Priest of which was given by Pharaoh to Joseph for a wife, and that one obelisk is all that remains to mark the site of that famed city.—John C. Smith, Illinois.

The goldsmiths and engravers, the workers in fine linen, even the orders of Priesthood, were united by ties peculiar to themselves yet all within the compact of the Sovereign Body.

(To be Continued.)

SHORT HISTORY OF THE MYSTIC SHRINE

BY THE EDITOR.

CHAPTER III.

At the institution of the Imperial Council in 1876, the following officers were elected for three years:

Walter M. Flemming, New York, Imperial Potentate.

George F. Loder, Rochester, N. Y., Deputy Potentate.

Philip F. Lenhart, Brooklyn, N. Y., Chief Rabban.

Edward M. L. Ehlers, New York, Assistant Rabban.

William H. Whiting, Rochester, High Priest.

Samuel R. Carter, Rochester, Oriental Guide.

Aaron L. Northrop, New York, Treasurer.

William S. Patterson, New York, Recorder.

Albert P. Moriarity, New York, Financial Secretary.

John L. Stettinius, Cincinnati, O., First Ceremonial Master.

Benson Sherwood, New York, Second Ceremonial Master.

Samuel Harper, Pittsburgh, Marshal.

Frank H. Bascom, Montpelier, Captain of the Guard.

George Scott, Patterson, N. J., Outer Guard.

These officers were installed by Noble McClenachan, and the Imperial Council launched on the fraternal sea its most sanguine advocates, little anticipating that it would grow unto the proportions it has now (1903) reached.

The title of this body was "The Imperial Grand Council of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine for the United States of America." The enactments of this *session* were about the following:

1. The Grand Orient was fixed at the City of New York.

2. Power was granted to each Temple to confer the honor of Past Potentate upon five Nobles for honorary membership in the Imperial Council.

3. A committee of three was raised to draught Statutes and Regulations for the Imperial Council and its subordinates.

4. The charter fee was fixed at $50 and to include one ritual.

5. The annual dues of each Temple were fixed at $10, "in lieu of any *per capita* tax."

6. The minimum fee for *initiation* was fixed at $10.

7. The prerequisites for the order were fixed as "Knight Templar, *or* 32° Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Mason"—and this is the law today.

8. Mecca Temple received the first charter—bearing the date of September 26, 1872. There were no statistics given for the first year.

1877.

The second annual session, 1877, was held at Albany, February 6, with officers as before.

All Nobles in good standing were admitted to attend the session, as they are still.

The "Most" Illustrious Grand Potentate delivered his annual address. From it we quote:

"It is some five years or more since I came into possession of detached and mutilated sections of the translation of the Ritual of the Arabic and Egyptian Order of the Mystic Shrine, brought to America by one of the foreign members and representatives, through the hands of Ill.·. Brother Oswald Merle D'Aubigne, 32°. It was exceedingly imperfect and incomplete, and to a great extent badly translated and filled with unintelligible symbolisms. Another portion was brought from Oriental Europe by Ill.·. Wm. J. Florence, 32°, and some of the vague history and ritualistic sections were brought from Cairo, Egypt, by Ill.·. Bro. Sherwood C. Campbell, 32°. Those portions in possession of Bro. Florence were marked and referred to certain sections of the Koran for notes and allusions which greatly facilitated the compiling and revising of the Ritual to its present completion. This was a task of no small magnitude, and was undertaken and completed through the efforts of Bro. Florence and myself (Dr. Fleming,) aided by a professional linguist and Arabic scholar."

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

CO-OPERATION.

To true Masons the inference is easily deduceable that as brothers and fellows we should co-operate with each other whenever or wherever we can without injury to ourselves and families. How far this inference may be carried we do not presume to say—but we have yet to see it overwrought. If the numerous societies professing to guarantee benefits to their members are justified in making special emphasis on the duty of one member to another, why not also in this foremost of all purely fraternal, benevolent and ethical institutions?

May we not go the other step and say—modestly as to personality—that our brothers owe it to each other to do as much as in them lies to co-operate with each other in the business relations of life. Not discriminating against others, but attending to our own first. Let co-operation continue.

MASONIC IGNORANCE.

It is astonishing how profoundly ignorant the average man is in regard to what pertains to the duty of an editor and the successful running of a journal. Many men think that their views ought to be the editor's, and that the mere mention of the fact to the editor is sufficient to justify his change of opinion or suffer a boycott. Show us a journal, either secular or religious, run on these lines, and we'll show you a journal which will surely die. The successful editor of this time, also of years gone by, is the man who has honest convictions and dare utter them, even though he is alone in his views. Over thirty years of active journalism, in all departments of the business, some twenty years ago, taught us that candor and honesty, especially in our writings, met with more favor and yielded a greater profit than "namby-pamby-ism," trying to please all classes, to the detriment of honest convictions. We were "raised" in a different school altogether. In our day we were taught to call things by their proper names and attack both men and measures whenever the public welfare demanded it. In our day negative men were not in it. It was the positive editor, provided he had the nerve to back his convictions, who always found employment. Then it was that the editorial was read more eagerly than any other department of the paper, especially so by public servants and men in high places. And in those days, as now, the influence of a well-edited journal kept them "in the straight and narrow path" and deterred them from doing many things the commission of which would outrage the public and forever damn themselves. In our early journalistic days in this country it was very fashionable—indeed, it was the fad—for an editor to back his opinions to the satisfaction of his adversary or "eat crow." We have seen the "crow act" performed twice, and in both instances the journals died within six months.

Being "raised" in the old school and devoting the largest part of our young life to journalism, it is but perfectly natural that we should offend some of the younger class of the present day by our writings. They seem to think that what we write is directed especially at them, and they proceed to "lecture us for our own good," and warn us that our "writings are too severe." On the other hand, we are made the personal recipient of many congratulations, aside from what the mail brings us, approving our efforts and begging us to "keep it up for the good of the craft."

To those whom we have offended, and will continue to offend, we desire to say that we do not mean to be severe; it is just our way of stating the proposition. Isn't it just barely possible, brother, that in our efforts to "point a moral and adorn a tale" the garment which we weave fits you so uncomfortably close that you, as an honest man, cannot continue in the way best suited to your liking for fear of future developments? No, no, brothers; we have lived beyond the baby form of editorial work; we have swapped our swaddling clothes for a man's size garment, and, true to the school in which we were "raised," shall continue to "hew to the line, let the chips fall where they may."

"Oh," but you say, "we are a crank and will make enemies by our course." We deny being a crank, but admit that we make some enemies, only, however, those who want to be made, and view us through prejudiced glasses. We have never yet, in our long connection with *The Commercial Appeal*, personized a brother, in our efforts to correct evils and improve surroundings. When occasion required it, we have spoken truthfully but honestly and in a general way.

Say, brother, examine yourself with the light of an X-ray, and see if the fault isn't with you that our writings don't suit you.

You say you "don't read them." Oh, yes you do; otherwise you would have "no kick coming." That's what

we write for, is to make you read. This you have done for years past and will continue to do as long as we write, and we'll wager "dollars to doughnuts" that you never read an article from our pen, or any other Masonic editor, that did not give you something to think about for many moons, and had you profited as you should by our advice you would have no cause for complaint, but be in close touch with the angels—that is, as close as a fault-finding man can get while on earth. It is said by physicians that when a patient begins to "get cross and kick," they know they are convalescing. So also with us. When a brother begins to pout and "do" us, we feel assured that he is approaching the convalescent state and ere the rising and setting of a few more suns, we will have fully restored him to a healthy Masonic state. See Brother?—Bun F. Price.

TRUE CHARITY.

Few among the wealthy, so called "philanthropists" have ever approached the true work of that true Charity which assists and up-lifts the discouraged and unfortunate. The millions bestowed to endow schools of learning and hospitals or to erect libraries are all right in their way but all lack the result that ought to be reached.

True Charity would be to use wealth to erect comfortable homes in which poor men could live and from their earnings pay small amounts until the home would be justly theirs. The Charity would be in the commutation of time, when by sickness, accident or misfortune the payments could not be met.

True Charity would be to use the wealth now overflowing into other channels in laying out holding of small acreage and encouraging the poor to occupy them on small *profitable* rentals and giving them the privilege of final ownership.

True Charity is in giving with cheerfulness; looking to the higher reward; to the cause that will most quickly give relief to the poorest of God's children.

True Charity would be to frame our laws so that from the humblest "justice court" to the Supreme Court of the nation, the humblest citizen should have the right if without means to carry up his cause.

True Charity in Fraternity is to make it the first business of the Lodge to fully understand the conditions of its poor, to appreciate their feelings and to minister to them promptly in all that true Masonry counts for.

True Charity gives with its soul in its eyes, to him that hath need, without delay, and it were far better to be imposed upon many times than to fail in this duty once.

WELCOME THE VISITOR.

The ritualistic work of the lodge may be never so perfect, its prosperity never so assured—if it be cold to the stranger within its gates its reputation is but sounding brass, with little intrinsic value. A most excellent Worshipful Master followed this practice: Whenever an unvouched visitor was announced the Master addressed the committee of investigation in this wise, "Satisfy yourselves, brethren, that the party is duly and truly a Mason. Discover this as quickly as possible. Do not badger him with unnecessary questions, nor impress upon him your own possible wisdom. Let hearty welcome greet him and make him feel at home in this lodge." With such a reception the brother was sure to enjoy his visit. The entire lodge was imbued with the courtesy of the Master, and its reputation extended far and wide as a lodge where the sunshine of fraternity was perennial and where frost was never known. There is much, brethren, in the threshold greeting of strangers.—Trestle Board.

KEEP IT DARK.

A district deputy grand master told the writer recently that he took no Masonic papers and had no time to read Masonic books, although he had such quantities of the latter that he was obliged to keep them in a barrel. The brethren may think this a fairy story, but it isn't.—*Illinois Freemason.*

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